

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

ITEM 9

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND/OR AMEND A FEDERAL SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT SECTION 1443(a) GRANT; AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND AMENDMENT OF CONTRACTS FOR SUPPORT OF THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM SUPERVISION PROGRAM

DISCUSSION

The Division of Drinking Water is proposing that the State Water Board adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director or designee to apply for, accept, and/or amend a federal Safe Drinking Water Act section 1443(a) grant of up to a total of \$40,000,000, and to authorize execution and amendment of contracts for support of the Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) program for fiscal years 2021-2025.

As a state with delegated primary enforcement responsibility (primacy), California is eligible to receive federal grants to support implementation of the PWSS program. PWSS program activities include developing drinking water regulations, maintaining an inventory of public water systems, developing and maintaining a public water system compliance information database, conducting public water system sanitary surveys, reviewing public water system plans and specifications, providing technical assistance to public water systems, ensuring that public water systems regularly inform consumers of water quality, certifying drinking water laboratories, and implementing an enforcement program to ensure public water system compliance.

The Division has applied for a grant of \$7,126,000 for fiscal year 2021-2022, supporting an estimated 28 full-time equivalent positions. Approval of the proposed resolution would allow an authorized grant to be accepted.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board authorize the Executive Director or designee to apply for and accept FYs 2021-2025 SDWA 1443(a) PWSS grant funds and to negotiate, approve, and/or amend the grants and associated workplans and contracts?

FISCAL IMPACT

The PWSS Grant funds approximately 9% of Drinking Water Program expenditures. Drinking Water Program revenues are not currently sufficient to support the Drinking Water Program without these funds.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The State Water Board should adopt the proposed Resolution.